

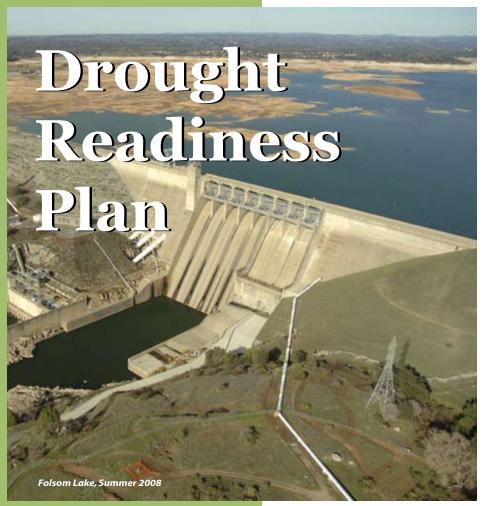
Visit www.roseville.ca.us/100 and watch a new 100 Moments of Roseville History each day, and get details about the April centennial festivities!

ENVIRONMENTAL UTIL CITY OF ROSE

February 2009



WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE



On behalf of the community, we want to thank you for your water-wise practices and ask you to continue those efforts as we move toward summer.

As we move through our wet season, we have no way to predict if the coming weeks will deliver record rainfall or none at all. Climatologists give us even odds for a wet and dry year, so we can only wait and see.

While it may be too early to determine this year's rainfall totals, we do know that even more than normal rainfall and a deep Sierra Nevada snow pack will not make up for the dry conditions of the past two years. We do expect a 25 percent cutback in our federal water allocation this year because of the extremely dry conditions throughout much of the state. According to the California Department of Water Resources Drought 2008 report, which is available online at www.water.ca.gov/drought:

- The last two water years, October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2008 left a deficit of nearly 28" precipitation in the Northern and Central Sierra, source of much of our water supply.
- For the Northern Sierra, 2007 and 2008 marks the ninth driest two-year period in 88 years of record.
- Statewide average precipitation for the last two years has been about 70 percent of average.
- Some parts of Southern California experienced their driest year on record during water year 2006-2007, with other locations receiving near record low rainfall.

In other words, it will take much more than one higher than normal precipitation year to recover from the shortfall and there's a 50/50 chance this will be another dry year.

Rather than wait until we know more, we encourage you to take action by maintaining your water conservation practices and taking steps to lower future water consump-

tion. The cool weather is a great time to install a drip irrigation system, replace lawns with drought tolerant plantings, and take advantage of the many rebates the city is offering to cover the cost of replacing thirsty appliances and water-wasting toilets.

We will maintain our Stage 1 Drought Condition and continue to ask for your voluntary efforts to lower water use by 10 percent until better water projections are available. Last year, we achieved a 6 percent water-use reduction even though we did not issue the Stage 1 Drought Alert until midway through the year. We are confident that we would have reached our 10 percent goal if an unusually dry spring had not increased water use before we issued the alert.

One Big Recycle Bin and a Whole Lot More!

The City of Roseville offers more ways to recycle than most people realize. It begins with your two trash bins for green waste and refuse. Once we pick them up at curbside, we take the to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), where the green waste is turned into compost and the refuse is sorted for all recyclable materials—such as glass, aluminum and plastic.

We also offer three recycling drop-off centers where you can take cardboard, newspapers, glass, plastic, packaging foam, and aluminum. The sites allow us to sell clean recyclables directly to manufacturers, helping us to keep your rates low.

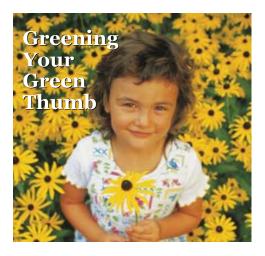
We also provide battery drop-off locations and curbside pick up of household hazardous waste, including batteries, electronics, printer cartridges, motor oil and filters, and cooking fats, oils and greases.

www.roseville.ca.us/solid_waste_utility









The Roseville Exploration Center is hosting an exciting array of gardening workshops this spring, all with an earth-friendly focus. Best of all, every workshop is being offered at one price for the entire family. Here's a quick peak of what's being offered:

Vermicomposting—Worms in the Kitchen?

Saturday, February 21, 2009 1:00 am-12:00 pm; course #43487 Family Fee: \$35/\$33 Resident Discount

Prune Your Shade Trees for Strength & Beauty

Saturday, February 21, 2009 1:00 pm-3:00 pm; course #43488 FREE

Designing a New Landscape

Saturday, March 7, 2009 9:30 am-2:00 pm; course #43489 Family Fee: \$25/\$20 Resident Discount

Going Native— **Choosing Native Plants for Your Garden**

Saturday, March 21, 2009 1:00 pm-3:00 pm; course #43494 Family Fee: \$20/\$16 Resident Discount

Maintaining a Sustainable, **Water-Efficient Landscape**

Saturday, March 28. 2009 9:00 am-12:30 pm; course #43490 Family Fee: \$22/\$18 Resident Discount

Re-Designing an Existing Landscape

Saturday, April 25, 2009 9:00 am-2:30 pm; course #43491 Family Fee: \$25/\$20 Resident Discount

Composting & Vermicomposting

Saturday, May 9, 2009 10:00 am-12:00 pm; course #43492 Family Fee: \$45/\$38 Resident Discount

Irrigation System Installation. Retrofitting & Troubleshooting

Saturday, May 9, 2009 1:00 pm-3:00 pm; course #43493 Family Fee: \$20/\$16 Resident Discount

Get the details in your Parks and Recreation Guide or visit www.roseville.ca.us/explore. You can sign up online, at the Exploration Center, or by calling 916-746-1550.



ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES

www.roseville.ca.us/eu 2005 Hilltop Circle Roseville, CA 95747 916-774-5750

TODAY is published for Roseville's residents by the Environmental Utilities Department of the City of Roseville. ©2009.

Comments and suggestions are welcome—please send to the attention of Sean Bigley.

Rate Hike Expected

On March 4, 2009, rate adjustments will be recommended to the Roseville City Council. If approved, the new rates will go into effect May 2009 and April 2010. For the average Roseville household, the proposed 5.2 percent adjustment this year and 5.3 percent adjustment next year will increase the water, sewer and refuse portion of utility bills a little under \$4.00 per month.

Several factors have contributed to the need for an adjustment, including more stringent regulatory requirements, the cost to renew and repair aging infrastructure, and higher employment and operations costs. While any rate increase is unwelcome, the city has been working hard to bring costs down where possible. Those efforts have resulted in a lower than expected rate adjustment, originally planned to be 8 percent this year and next. In addition, the rates Roseville collects for water, sewer and refuse collection services remain the lowest in region.

More information about the rate adjustment, including a list of frequently asked questions, is available on the city's Web site at www.roseville.ca.us/eurates.

Celebrate the Earth with Your Community

Come out and join the community celebration of Earth Day on Saturday, April 18, 2009.

The second annual event promises plenty of interesting performances, displays, games, prizes, and vendors selling eco-friendly products. There will be something for every member of the family—so don't miss it!

Find out more at www.roseville.ca.us/explore or by calling 916-746-1550.

Double Exposure:

Turning the Camera on Climate Change

This April and May, the Roseville Exploration Center we will be hosting an acclaimed exhibit on global climate change. **Double Exposure**, created by the Museum of Science in Boston, compares historic photographs of glaciers to modern photographs of the same areas between the 1930 and present day. The dramatic recession of these glaciers is the perfect backdrop for associated interpretive panels on global climate change that accompany the photographs.

The exhibit will kick off with a reception and benefit for the center on April 16. The reception will be followed by our second annual Celebrate the Earth Festival on April 18. This remarkable exhibit will run through May and is free to the public. Sponsorship opportunities are available to individuals and organizations who want to help defray the costs.

Find out more on our Web site at www.roseville.ca.us/explore or by calling 916-746-1550.







WaterWise Tip

Irrigation systems should be turned off for the winter but when turned back on only water your lawn and garden when they really need it. Fifty percent of the water we use in our homes goes to irrigation, so it's a great place to save your 10 percent!

Roseville has many programs and rebates to help you save water. Visit www.roseville.ca.us/savewater or call 916-774-5761 to learn more.

HEROES Among Us

Each month, an employee is selected to receive the department's Honoring Excellence and Rewarding Outstanding Employees (HEROE) award.

Our October award goes to Engineering Technician MICHELLE NORDQUIST, who provided tremendous support on a project for the Regional Water Quality Control Board. While her efforts on the project were much appreciated, it's her great attitude and enthusiastic contribution to every task that earns our appreciation every day.

STEPHANIE GILLIS was nominated by a Roseville resident for November's award. The resident had disposed of a universal waste item that she needed to retrieve. According to the resident, "Stephanie treated me with professional courtesy, listened to my dilemma, never interrupted nor judged me, and offered a solution above and beyond what I could have asked for." Thank you to Stephanie and to the resident for taking time to contact us.

 $If there {\it 's \ an Environmental \ Utilities \ Department \ employee \ who \ has \ provided \ you \ with}$ outstanding service, we'd love to hear about it—please call us at 916-774-5770.



Michelle Nordauist



Stephanie Gillis

